

# TWO POLICE-KILLING SUSPECTS CAUGHT



**CAPTURED.**—Gregory Ulas Powell, his head bowed, is escorted by Det. Sat. Pierce Brooks, left, in Bakersfield after arrest in the slaying of a policeman.  
Times photo by Frank Q. Brown

## Officer Slain in Gang Fashion Following Kidnaping on Street

A suspected gunman, accused of kidnaping two Los Angeles police officers and shooting one of them to death in a Kern County field, was captured Sunday night about 22 hours after the arrest of his accomplice.

Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, an ex-convict with the word "LOVE" tattooed on his fingers, was picked up in a Bakersfield rooming house by Bakersfield police.

Police said Smith was armed with a pistol but did not resist arrest.

Smith and the other suspect, Gregory Ulas Powell, 29, also an ex-convict, were accused of kidnaping the officers in Hollywood and shooting one of them down in a gangland style slaying.

The suspected killers, both ex-convicts, fled from the scene of the cold-blooded shooting. One suspect was picked up within hours and the other was captured late Sunday night in a Bakersfield rooming house.

### Hail of Bullets

The two officers were standing in the moonlit field 25 miles south of Bakersfield shortly after midnight with their hands over their heads when their captors opened fire without warning.

The second officer fled in a hail of bullets, taking advantage of a cloud that drifted across the full moon, shrouding the field in darkness as the gunfire started.

Plainclothes officer Ian James Campbell, 31, a policeman since 1958 and father of two young daughters, was shot once in the face before the killers pumped four more bullets into his chest as he lay dying in a farmland furrow.

### Gunmen End Chase

Campbell's partner, officer Karl F. Hettinger, 28, suffered cuts, bruises and shock as he zig-zagged to safety across the field, tore through a barbed-wire fence, and hid in a cluster of tumbleweeds.

The gunmen drove across



**Ian James Campbell**

the field trying to spot him in their headlights, but abandoned the chase at the fence.

Hettinger ran four miles to a farm house and telephoned for help.

California Highway Patrol officers later spotted one suspect fleeing in a stolen car and arrested him without a struggle.

He later was identified as Powell, a three-time prison escapee from Boulder City, Nev. He had been living here at 2323 W 11th St., police said.

Inside the car, officers found a 32-caliber revolver and a five-cell flashlight marked "Hettinger—LAPD."

Smith was arrested in Bakersfield at 10:55 p.m.

Lt. Albert Mier, who led a five-man force of Bakersfield police making the arrest, said Smith denied any part in the shooting.

Officers said an anonymous source had tipped them off.

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# KIDNAPED POLICE

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denied any part in the shooting.

Smith had a pistol when arrested in the rooming house but did not offer any resistance, Mier said.

Los Angeles officers are expected to bring Smith here today.

Smith, who sometimes stayed at the 11th St. address, is a recent parolee from Folsom Prison.

Police Insp. Jack G. Collins gave this account of the slaying:

Campbell and Hettinger were on patrol in Hollywood Saturday night in an unmarked police car when they spotted an old sedan that matched the description of a car used in several hold-ups.

## Ordered Into Car

They stopped the car at Gower St. and Carlos Ave. at 10:45 p.m. and were walking toward it when a suspect jumped out pointing a 32-caliber revolver at Campbell.

"I could have shot the other suspect," said Hettinger, "but Campbell would have been shot."

Instead, the officers obeyed the bandits' order and handed over their guns.

The policemen were ordered into the sedan, Campbell driving and Hettinger in the rear.

"They knew where they wanted to go," said Hettinger.

They drove out the Hollywood and Ventura Freeways, Sepulveda Blvd. and up U.S. 99 75 miles to the Maricopa-Santa Maria turnoff (State Route 166) in Kern County.

## Asked About Kidnap Law

They went west for two miles, then south on a dirt road another two miles.

"They ordered us out of the car," said Hettinger. "We stood there with our hands over our heads."

"Have you ever heard of the Little Lindbergh Law?" Powell asked Campbell, referring to the law that makes kidnapping with bodily harm a capital offense under certain conditions.

"Yes," the officer replied. Then Powell fired, hitting Campbell in the mouth.

Hettinger whirled and ran. Both gunmen fired at him but missed.

"At the first shot the moon was shining brightly," said Hettinger. "Suddenly it was covered by a cloud and I ran. I guess they couldn't see me very well."

"I zig-zagged across the plowed ground and crashed right through a barbed-wire fence. Then I hid."

"I crouched down in some tumbleweeds and I could see their headlights when they came looking for me. Finally they gave up."

As Hettinger ran for help, the gunmen drove to nearby Mettler Station where they stole a red and white sedan, belonging to William Riddick.

Riddick, a ranch worker, heard his car being driven away and telephoned the Kern County Sheriff's office at 12:30 a.m., about 15 minutes after the murder.

But the slaying of officer Campbell was not reported until the exhausted Hettinger staggered into a ranch house and called the Kern County Sheriff's Office at 1:25 a.m.

## 'Shaking All Over'

At 1:50 a.m. California Highway Patrol officers Merv Crist and Billy Odum spotted the stolen car on U.S. 99 near Mirage Station, 16 miles south of Bakersfield, linked it to the murder and pulled it over.

Powell was alone in it. "He didn't try to resist," they said. "He seemed pretty calm until we noticed the gun and flashlight. Then he started shaking all over."

Powell was placed under arrest for suspicion of murder and was taken to the Kern County Sheriff's Office, where officers said he admitted the kidnapping but blamed his partner for the shooting. He identified his companion as Jimmy Youngblood, an alias used by Smith.

Meanwhile other officers had picked up Hettinger and returned to the field where they found Campbell's body.

Hettinger later identified Powell as one of the gunmen.

Officers found the original kidnap sedan in the Lamont area at 7 a.m. The officers' 38-caliber revolvers were under the front seat.

Los Angeles police had known at 11:25 p.m. Satur-



**SEIZED** — Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, arrested as second suspect in kidnap and slaying of officer.



**SURVIVED** — Officer Karl T. Hettinger escaped kidnapers. He suffered cuts, bruises in escaping. Times photo

wrong as a citizen reported seeing the abandoned unmarked police car with its motor running at the Hollywood intersection.

That was 40 minutes after the kidnapping.

Police said Powell matched the description of one of two gunmen who robbed the Highlander Motel, 2051 N Highland Ave., of \$160 on Feb. 16.

Powell and Smith also are suspected of participating in several other armed robberies in the Hollywood area.

Police said Campbell, who was a Marine staff sergeant in Korea, leaves a wife, Adah, 23, and two daughters, Valerie, 3½, and Lori, 2. The wife was under sedation at the Campbell home, 20426 Labrador St., Chatsworth.

Hettinger was married recently and his wife, Helen, 21, also was under sedation at their home, 1019D Boynton Ave., Glendale. Hettinger has been a policeman four years.

In Los Angeles, police arrested Powell's common-law wife, Eldora Maxine Maddox, 27, of the W 11th St. address.

She was booked on suspicion of robbery along with two others in the residence, Otto Plenge and Gordon Johnson. Miss Maddox told officers she and Powell and Smith had driven to Los Angeles from a Bakersfield motel Saturday night, and the men

had dropped her off at a movie.

Homicide Capt. Hugh Brown said the suspects will be prosecuted in Los Angeles, since the law permits prosecution of a suspect at the point where a crime originates — Los Angeles County, even if the crime concludes in another jurisdiction — Kern County.

Powell was returned to Los Angeles Sunday afternoon and jailed, while Hettinger, still wearing his torn clothing and seemingly hypnotized by shock, also was returned here by officers. He was taken to Central Receiving Hospital for treatment.

# Powell Admits Firing First Shot at Policeman

## But Ex-Convict Says His Crime Partner Hit Dying Officer With Four More Bullets

Gregory Ulas Powell admitted to police Tuesday that he fired the first shot that felled Det. Ian James Campbell.

But he said his crime partner fired four other shots into the dying officer.

Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, who has said he and Powell, 29, kidnaped Campbell and Det. Karl F. Hettinger Saturday night in Hollywood, continued to deny he fired any shots.

### Hands Over Head

Powell made his accusation in a dramatic face-to-face confrontation with Smith for the first time since their capture.

Powell insisted he shot Campbell only once as the officer stood with his hands above his head in a moon-lit onion field 25 miles south of Bakersfield.

Smith then used Campbell's service revolver to fire four slugs into Campbell's chest as he lay gasping on the ground, Powell said.

Powell told homicide Capt. Hugh Brown that he then fired at Hettinger, 28, who ran for cover when the shooting started.

### Called a 'Liar'

"I shot until the gun was empty," Powell assertedly said.

He then took out another pistol and went looking for Hettinger, but failed to find him, Powell said.

"Smith also fired after Hettinger," Powell said.

Shouted Smith: "Powell is a liar."

Dep. Dist. Atty. Marshall M. Schulman was expected to issue murder complaints against Powell and Smith today.

Hettinger, still showing signs of fatigue, met with homicide officers Tuesday morning to go over the ordeal from the time of the kidnaping until he and Campbell were lined up in the onion patch by the gunmen.

Capt. Brown said Hettin-

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# KILLING

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ger recalled that the suspects had repeatedly told the officers on the ride toward Bakersfield that they would be killed if they attempted to attract attention.

"Hettinger was worried about being killed, but from the conversation he apparently felt there was some hope of getting out alive," said Brown.

Hettinger told reporters. "I was told I must not discuss details of the case until it gets in court. Outside of feeling tired, I am all right."

He had spent a night in Central Receiving Hospital for treatment of cuts and shock.

### Board Adjourns

"One thing I can tell you," he added, "is that was the first time that I ever had a gun pulled on me."

The Board of Supervisors adjourned Tuesday in the memory of Campbell, a four-year police veteran and father of two daughters, Valerie, 3, and Lori, 2.

Supervisor Warren M. Dorn, board chairman, introduced a motion extending the board's sympathy to Campbell's family.

Funeral services for Campbell will be conducted today at 1:30 p.m. at Utter-McKinley Mortuary. Burial will follow at Forest Lawn Memorial-Park.



**CONVICTED IN SLAYING**—Jimmy Lee Smith, left, and Gregory U. Powell leave Superior Court solemnly after being found guilty of first degree murder in the slaying of Los Angeles policeman Ian James Campbell on March 10.

*Times photo*

## Pair Guilty of Slaying Policeman

**Jury Held Over to Set Penalties for Two Ex-Convicts**

Two ex-convicts accused of killing a Los Angeles policeman in a remote Kern County onion field were found guilty of first degree murder by a Superior Court jury Wednesday.

Gregory U. Powell, 30, and Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, showed no emotion as the verdict was read.

Judge Mark Brandler ordered the jury of nine men and three women locked up until the end of a second trial to determine the penalty. It is to start Friday.

After evidence is presented at the penalty trial, the jury will deliberate to determine if life imprisonment or death sentences should be given to either or both men.

### **Alternate on Jury**

The verdict came in the fifth day of deliberations but only about four hours after an alternate juror replaced a woman juror who became ill.

Judge Brandler relieved Mrs. Estelle M. Drobeck late Tuesday when she complained of illness. A doctor's report said she was "verging on a nervous breakdown." Patrick J. Garcia replaced her Wednesday morning.

Powell and Smith were accused of killing Policeman Ian James Campbell, 31, in a field about 25 miles south of Bakersfield March 10 after they kidnaped him and Policeman Karl Hettinger on a Hollywood street.

### **Tells of Shooting**

Hettinger, 28, was a key witness against the men. He testified how Campbell was deliberately shot and how he escaped from the ex-convicts in a hail of bullets.

Smith claimed at the 10-week trial that he never shot at Campbell. And he said after the verdict was read that Powell repeatedly told him while in jail that "he would take me to the gas chamber with him."

Powell, on the other hand, testified his gun accidentally discharged and he did not intend to kill the officer but

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# SLAYERS

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that Smith then fired four times at Campbell.

"I admit the responsibility to some extent because I put the man (Campbell) in the position to be killed," Powell said as he was being returned to his jail cell. But he denied telling Smith he would "take him to the gas chamber."

Dep. Dist. Atty. Marshall M. Schulman called 54 prosecution witnesses at the trial, which included a night session in the Kern County field where Campbell was killed.

Powell was defended by Dep. Public Defender John Moore and Smith by attorney Ray Smith.

# Officer's Slayer Weeps, Pleads to Jury for Life

## Gregory Powell Says He Feels Remorse for Ian Campbell but Shouldn't Be Executed

Gregory U. Powell, 30, broke into sobs Wednesday as he pleaded with the jury for his life in the slaying of police officer Ian James Campbell.

"I feel in my heart I've done a terrible thing," Powell said. "But I should be allowed to live."

"I feel remorse for Campbell but I feel more for his wife and kids," Powell told the jury of nine men and three women who will decide whether he goes to prison for life or to the gas chamber.

"I've got a lot to pay for," he said.

### Kidnaped With Partner

Powell and Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, both ex-convicts, were convicted a week ago of the first-degree murder of Campbell, who was kidnaped with his partner and slain March 10 in a Kern County onion field near Bakersfield.

Dep. Dist. Atty. Marshall M. Schulman argued to the jury that both should be given the death penalty. He described them as "cool and calculated killers" and the crime as "cold-blooded, vicious and unwarranted."

The trial to decide the penalty for the pair will go to the jury today in the court of Superior Judge Mark Brandler.

Powell, acting as his own attorney, gave testimony in narrative style for two hours.

His words frequently were punctuated by sobs.

"I don't want to go to prison for life," he said. "I want to go and work and try to make up for Campbell's death."

Powell said he realizes he "can do nothing to bring Campbell back or to help his wife and kids," but he added:

"I feel there is some good in me . . . Maybe I can do just one person some good. Keep some one person from walking the path I walked."

### Asked About Statement

Under cross-examination, Powell was asked by Schulman about a statement he made March 12, two days after he was arrested.

Powell at the time told homicide Det. Sgt. Pierce Brooks: "I feel if I don't get the death penalty, I will kill any person who tries to keep me incarcerated."

"At that time I was doing my damndest to get the pill," Powell replied. He said he has since changed his mind.

# Killers of L.A. Policeman Get Death Penalty

A Superior Court jury of nine men and three women voted the death penalty Thursday for the two ex-convicts found guilty of first degree murder in the March 10 slaying of a Los Angeles police officer.

Gregory U. Powell, 30, and Jimmy Lee Smith, 32, showed little emotion as clerk Grayce Martin read the verdict before Judge Mark Brandler's court.

Powell stood expressionless. Smith stared glassy-eyed at the jury.

The jury returned the verdict after two hours of deliberation.

Powell and Smith were convicted Sept. 4 of the murder of officer Ian James Campbell, 31, who was kidnaped with his partner, Karl Hettinger, 28, from a Hollywood street corner and slain in an onion field near Bakersfield.



**FACING GAS CHAMBER-** Jimmy Lee Smith, left, and Gregory U. Powell were given death penalty for the slaying of Los Angeles policeman near Bakersfield.

*Times photo*